VZCZCXRO9015 PP RUEHAST RUEHCHI RUEHDT RUEHHM RUEHLN RUEHMA RUEHNH RUEHPB RUEHPOD DE RUEHKO #2778 2800803 ZNR UUUUU ZZH P 060803Z OCT 08 FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7731 INFO RUCNASE/ASEAN MEMBER COLLECTIVE PRIORITY RUEHZN/ENVIRONMENT SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COLLECTIVE PRIORITY RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING PRIORITY 5689 RUEHRL/AMEMBASSY BERLIN PRIORITY 1504 RUEHBR/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA PRIORITY 0431 RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY 2802 RUEHJA/AMEMBASSY JAKARTA PRIORITY 4386 RUEHLJ/AMEMBASSY LJUBLJANA PRIORITY 0114 RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 2201 RUEHML/AMEMBASSY MANILA PRIORITY 1256 RUEHME/AMEMBASSY MEXICO PRIORITY 0540 RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY 2556 RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY 8593 RUEHOT/AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY 9731 RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY 6281 RUEHSA/AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY 0300 RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY 2174 RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL PRIORITY 1684 RUEHFK/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA PRIORITY 0222 RUEHNAG/AMCONSUL NAGOYA PRIORITY 8304 RUEHNH/AMCONSUL NAHA PRIORITY 2578 RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE PRIORITY 3967 RUEHKSO/AMCONSUL SAPPORO PRIORITY 0798 RUEAEPA/HQ EPA WASHDC PRIORITY RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY 3408 RHEHAAA/WHITE HOUSE WASHDC PRIORITY RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS PRIORITY RULSDMK/DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY RUCPDOC/DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY RHEHAAA/NSC WASHDC PRIORITY RHMCSUU/DEPT OF ENERGY WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY UNCLAS TOKYO 002778 SENSITIVE SIPDIS DOS/OES FOR HARLAN WATSON NSC FOR PAUL BROWN AND JONATHAN SHRIER CEQ FOR LANDON VAN DYKE DOT FOR LINDA LAWSON AND CAMILLE MITTELHOLTZ FAA FOR CARL BURLESON EPA FOR CHRISTOPHER GRUNDLER

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: <u>ELTN</u> <u>EWWT</u> <u>EAIR</u> <u>PREL</u> <u>AORC</u> <u>JA</u>

SUBJECT: MEET MINISTERIAL POSTPONED: GLOBAL CONFERENCE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT IN TRANSPORT (MEET) IN TOKYO PUSHED BACK

REF: A. TOKYO 1656 ¶B. TOKYO 2441

- 11. (SBU) Summary: The October 22-24 Ministerial Conference on Global Energy and Environment in Transportation (MEET) in Tokyo will be postponed, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transportation and Tourism (MLIT) officials told EMIN October 13. Although MLIT has not formally announced a postponement, they said it would be impossible to hold the meeting in October, due to Japan's domestic political situation. End Summary.
- 12. (SBU) MLIT Assistant Vice Minister for International Affairs Tadashi Shimura and MLIT Policy Bureau International Policy Planning Unit Director Yumi Yamaguchi called on EMIN to share GOJ's current plans for the October 22-24 MEET conference. Due to a possible dissolution of the Diet in mid-October or November, Shimura said, MLIT has decided to postpone the conference to "avoid embarrassment or confusion." He said there would be "no way" to hold the

meeting in October. The next possible date would be in early January when the Diet would not be in session, Shimura said, though he understands this would be a difficult time for the United States.

- 13. (SBU) Eight countries had agreed to send a Minister to the conference, said Shimura, including France, Germany, Italy, Australia, Korea, and the UK. The IMO and ICAO were also planning to send a top official.
- ¶4. (U) Shimura provided copies of a letter to DOT and EPA that the Japanese Embassy in Washington will deliver the week of October 6 explaining the postponement. Embassy will e-mail a copy of these letters to the Department, DOT, and EPA.

 SCHIEFFER